consuming due to a number of stoppages and long halts at different stations en route;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to start one superfast train from Delhi to Dehradun (Via Baraut-Shamli-Saharanpur-Lakshar and Haridwar with a return journey the same day; and

(c) if so, when it is likely to be implemented and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) The existing services between Delhi and Dehradun/ Saharanpur are considered adequate for the present level of traffic between these places. It is not feasible at present speed up these services by eliminating the existing stoppages. There is also no proposal to introduce any additional train on this route due to non-availability of adequate terminal/ maintenance facilities at either end and shortage of coaches and locomotives.

Promotion of SC/ST officials

3627. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of officers promoted to the senior administrative grade during 1987, 1988 and 1989 and how many belonged to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes among them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN):

The information is as under:—

Year	Total	SC	ST
1987	69	6	NIL
1988	288	26	5
1989	165	11	5

Sending of SC/ST Officials on Deputation

3628. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway officers sent on deputation during the years 1987, 1988 and 1989 and how many belonged to SC/ST; and

(b) if no SC/ST officer was sent, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN):

(a)	Year	No. of officers sent on deputation	No. of SC/ST
	1987	335	13
	1988	250	9
	1989	266	9

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Extension of train running between Surat and Bhusawal

3629. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the passenger train running between Surat and Bhusawal has stoppage of seven hours at Bhusawal;

(b) if so, whether instead of that halt, this train is proposed to be extended upto Khandwa to facilitate the passengers; and

(c) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) 113/114 Surat-Bhusawal Passenger has lie over of 8 hrs. and 35 minutes at Bhusawal. Other trains viz. 75/76 and 77/78 Surat-Bhusawal Passengers have lie over of less than 7 hrs. at Bhusawal.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Conversion of Jodhpur-Jaiselmer Line

3630. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government plan to convert the existing metre gauge railway line between Jodhpur and Jaiselmer;

(b) if so, the details of the project including the cost estimates and the arrangements for funding; and

(c) the stipulated time frame for starting and completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Conversion of Jodhpur-